



---

**CHICOPEE BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**ACCEPTED**

---

**MEMBERS**

Shane Brooks, Chairman  
George Moreau, Vice-Chairman  
James Tillotson  
Robert J. Zygarowski  
Donald Demers

**MINUTES**  
**May 29, 2008**

The following are the minutes of a public hearing held Thursday, May 29, 2008 at 6:30 PM in the Aldermanic Chambers, Fourth Floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013.

**Members Present**

Brooks, Moreau, Tillotson, Zygarowski, Demers

**Members Absent**

**Also Present**

Alderman Zaskey, Alderman Krampits, Carl Sittard (Library Trustee), Anne Dulchinos (Library Trustee), Normand Girouard (Library Trustee), Nancy Contois (Head Librarian)

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

**ITEM #1**

Communication from Carl Sittard, Library Trustee, regarding updating the Board on the next fiscal year library budget plan and how this will impact the Aldenville Branch.

Carl Sittard stated he offered the current senior center location but they are not interested. He stated he wants to keep something in the Aldenville area but asked if it really made any sense because of all the reasons it is closing in the first place. Also, the mayor does not want to rent anymore.

Alderman Brooks stated the landlord called him and is willing to negotiate something.

Carl stated the City is looking at millions of dollars to keep it open plus the main library is doing extremely well.

Nancy Contois stated it is about more than just the rent. They have to buy multiple books, computers, staff etc. The branch of this library has dropped since the newer library has opened. As far as all the other smaller branches, they have also dropped but have seemed to level off whereas Aldenville has not.

Carl stated if there were to look at any additional branches, maybe look at the Burnett Road area this way it would be spaced out more but wouldn't happen for years down the road.

Alderman Brooks stated Aldenville needs a library for the children and seniors.

Nancy stated by statistics many people who attend the Aldenville branch also go to the main library. In addition, they would like to get more staff at the Fairview branch so they can have more accommodations for the public to use and it will also be on opposite ends of Chicopee.

Alderman Zygarowski stated it's the location that killed the branch. Also asked what kinds of people attend this library.

Nancy stated it is a mixed crowd from elementary school children to teenagers to senior citizens.

Alderman Zygarowski then asked how much space will be needed for another small branched library in the Aldenville area.

Carl stated not very large at all considering the size it is now.

Alderman Demers stated he doesn't believe the branch should be closed for example there are 5 schools in the area so parking spaces shouldn't be an issue.

Alderman Zygarowski stated with all the schools, it may be the reason why it is going down.

Nancy stated that most kids in schools use the main branch or use their own computers at home as well.

Alderman Demers stated he is nervous if it were to close that no libraries would be put back into the area.

Alderman Moreau stated he would hate to see any type of branch be closed but unfortunately if it is not in the budget it just can not be done. Also stated he agrees with Demers, if it were to be closed, nothing would come back.

Motion made by Alderman Moreau to table.

Seconded by Alderman Zygarowski

Motion accepted 5-0 favorable

## **ITEM #2**

Minutes – 5-10-07

Motion made by Alderman Zygarowski to accept

Motion approved. 5-0 favorable

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.